

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of forming a multi-media communication path between at least a first
2 communication device, a second communication device and a third communication
3 device all of which are coupled to a multi-media provider system, the method
4 comprising:
5 receiving a first call request at a circuit-based portion of a multi-media provider
6 system;
7 processing the call request at the circuit-based portion of the multi-media provider
8 system for forming a first communication link between the first and second
9 communication devices;
10 sending predetermined attributes of the first communication link to an IP-based
11 portion of the multi-media provider system for configuring the IP-based portion of the
12 multi-media provider system to provide at least one of a plurality of predetermined multi-
13 media services; and
14 monitoring the first communication link for a predetermined request for at least
15 one of the plurality of multi-media services.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein after sending predetermined attributes of the first
2 communication link to the IP-based portion of the multi-media provider system, the
3 method further includes forming a first Real-Time Transport Protocol stream between the
4 first communication device and an application server located on the IP-based portion of
5 the multi-media provider system.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, further including forming a second Real-Time Transport
2 Protocol stream between the second communication device and the application server
3 located on the IP-based portion of the multi-media provider system.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein monitoring the first communication link for the
2 predetermined request includes monitoring the first communication link for a post-answer
3 call redirect request as directed by an Application Server.

1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein configuring the IP-based portion of the multi-
2 media provider system to provide at least one of the plurality of predetermined multi-
3 media services includes:

4 configuring the IP-based portion of the multi-media provider system to provide
5 post-answer call redirecting services.

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1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein after detecting the post-answer call redirect
2 request, the method further includes forming a third Real-Time Transport Protocol stream
3 between the third communication device and the application server located on the IP-
4 based portion of the multi-media provider system.

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1 7. The method of claim 6, further including moving the first, second and third Real-
2 Time Transport Protocol streams to a media server located on the IP-based portion of the
3 multi-media provider system for enabling the media server to operate as a mediator for
4 the first, second and third Real-Time Transport Protocol streams.

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1 8. The method of claim 7, further including the Application Server instructing the
2 media server to mix the first, second and third Real-Time Transport Protocol streams for
3 providing the multi-media communication path between at least the first communication
4 device, the second communication device and the third communication device.

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1 9. The method of claim 8, where after controlling the media server to mix the first,
2 second and third Real-Time Transport Protocol streams, the method further includes
3 disabling the monitoring of the first communication link for the post-answer call redirect
4 request.

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1 10. The method of claim 9, further including controlling the media server to monitor
2 the multi-media communication path for at least one of a plurality of conferencing
3 instructions.

1 11. The method of claim 9, further including controlling the media server to monitor the
2 multi-media communication path for at least one of a plurality of transfer instructions.

1 12. The method of claim 9, further including controlling the media server to monitor the
2 multi-media communication path for at least one of a plurality of courtesy transfer
3 instructions.

1 13. The method of claim 9, further including controlling the media server to monitor
2 the multi-media communication path for at least one of a plurality of consult and transfer
3 instructions.

1 14. The method of claim 9, further including controlling the media server to monitor
2 the multi-media communication path for at least one of a plurality of conference and
3 transfer instructions.

1 15. A method for providing Post Answer Call Redirection (PACR) to provide
2 capacity relief to existing telecommunications network and to predetermined network
3 elements, the method comprising:

- 4 a. receiving at a Border Element (BE) a telephone call from a calling party
- 5 b. transmitting a message from the Border Element to a Call Control Element
6 (CCE) to a Service Broker (SB) to an Application Server (AS) to a Media
7 Server (MS), wherein a first query message is received by the AS without
8 having been routed through a circuit-based portion of the communications
9 network and including a circuit switch, a circuit service control point
10 (SCP), and a circuit adjunct;
- 11 c. receiving at a Border Element instructions for PACR from the AS;
- 12 d. providing PACR, via a combination of the AS, MS, BE, and CCE without
13 accessing the circuit switch, circuit SCP, or circuit adjunct; and
- 14 e. after receiving PACR, routing the telephone call without accessing the
15 circuit switch, the circuit SCP and the circuit adjunct.